



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

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February 9, 2022

To: House Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: Support of HB143 - Somerset County - Natural Resources - Sunday Hunting

On behalf of our member families in Somerset County, I submit this written testimony in support of HB 143, legislation that expands Sunday hunting in Somerset County by authorizing the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to allow a person in Somerset County to hunt any game bird or mammal on a Sunday during the open season for that game bird or mammal (including on public land leased to a hunt club that is designated for hunting by DNR).

Crop damage created by deer is nearly \$50 per acre today. These numbers are even higher on the Eastern Shore. DNR reports show that more than 10% of the deer harvested this hunting season were done on Sundays. Opening Somerset County to have these additional Sunday hunting dates will allow the hunters to help address the overpopulation of deer in Somerset County.

MDFB Policy: We support statewide Sunday hunting on private lands.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS HB 143 AND ENCOURAGES A FAVORABLE REPORT.

Colby Ferguson
Director of Government Relations

For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396